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PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

Docket No.: 1614.1125

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:

Kaoru SHIMAMURA

Serial No. 09/785,219 Group Art Unit: 2672

Confirmation No. 3949

Filed: February 20, 2001 Examiner: WANG, JIN-CHENG

For: CHARACTER PROCESSING APPARATUS, CHARACTER PROCESSING SYSTEM, CHARACTER PROCESSING METHOD AND STORAGE MEDIUM

SUPPLEMENTAL APPEAL BRIEF UNDER 37 CFR § 41.37(C)

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In a Notice of Appeal filed December 14, 2004, the applicant appealed the Examiner's June 14, 2004, Office Action finally rejecting claims 1, 3, 5-7, 9-10, 12, 14, 16, 18, and 22-25. After a petition for a three-month extension of time, appellant's Appeal Brief was filed May 16, 2005.

An Order returning this Appeal to the Examiner was issued April 24, 2006, wherein it was indicated that the Appeal Brief filed May 16, 2005 did not include the required Evidence Appendix and Related Proceedings Appendix. In response, the Examiner issued a notice that the May 17, 2005 Appeal Brief was defective.

Accordingly, Appellant's hereby submit this Supplemental Appeal Brief with the required appendix sections. This Supplemental Appeal Brief includes the same substance as the originally filed Appeal Brief, with the only addition being the required appendix sections.

I. REAL PARTY IN INTEREST (37 CFR § 41.37(c)(1)(i))

The real party in interest is Fujitsu Limited, the assignee of the subject application.

II. RELATED APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES (37 CFR § 41.37(c)(1)(ii))

The applicant and the undersigned representative are not aware of any other appeals or interferences that will directly affect or be directly affected by, or have a bearing on, the Board's decision in the pending appeal.

III. STATUS OF CLAIMS (37 CFR § 41.37(c)(1)(iii))

Claims 1, 3, 5-7, 9-10, 12, 14, 16, 18, and 22-25 stand finally rejected and are the subject of this appeal.

IV. STATUS OF AMENDMENTS (37 CFR § 41.37(c)(1)(iv))

No new amendments to the claims have been presented since the Notice of Appeal filed December 14, 2004.

V. SUMMARY OF INVENTION (37 CFR § 41.37(c)(1)(v))

Embodiments of the present invention are directed toward character processing including registering of graphic character codes of "external characters," i.e., characters not defined by a local system, by way of a network connection between the local system (input terminal equipments) and character managing terminal equipment/character information creating terminal equipment.

As an example of the presently claimed invention, independent claim 10 sets forth:

> "[a] character processing method adapted to a character processing system which includes a plurality of input terminal equipments, a character processing apparatus, and a character information creating terminal equipment, which are coupled via a network, comprising:
> receiving by the character processing apparatus, a request for character information which relates to an external character, from an arbitrary one of the input terminal equipments;
> allocating a code to the requested character information by the character processing apparatus;
> controlling, by the character processing apparatus, creation of character information, based on the character information, in the creating terminal equipment; and
> setting created character information with respect to the allocated code by the character processing apparatus, so that the created character information is accessible from each of the input terminal equipments."

FIG. 1 of the present application illustrates an example of the claimed character processing system, including a plurality of input equipments 1, a character processing apparatus (e.g., external character managing terminal equipment 3), and an external character creating terminal equipment 4. FIGS. 2-4 further illustrate each of the external character creating terminal equipment 4, external character managing terminal equipment 3, and input equipments 1, respectively. Also, see FIGS. 11 and 13 illustrating flow diagrams for embodiments of the present invention, each detailing which terminal equipment (illustrated terminal equipment 2-i), external character managing terminal equipment (illustrated terminal equipment 3), and external character creating equipment (illustrated terminal equipment 4) performs which operation. The discussion of FIG. 11 is included in the present application on pages 14-21, and FIG. 13 is detailed on pages 21-22.

As detailed above, embodiments of the present invention include the terminal equipments requesting character information of an external character. A character processing apparatus may then allocate a code to the requested character information and control creation

of character information in the creating terminal equipment, i.e., See FIG. 11: operations S3-1 and S3-2. Thus, with these processes, a terminal equipment requests for character information of an external character and generation of that character information by a separate equipment.

Embodiments of the present invention further include the claimed "setting created character information with respect to the allocated code by the character processing apparatus, so that the created character information is accessible from each of the input terminal equipments." Thus, here, the created character information is made accessible to each of the terminal equipments.

Independent claim 1 is directed toward the character processing apparatus network connectable to a plurality of input terminal equipments and a character information creating terminal equipment. Claim 1 similarly claims the receiving of the character information request, allocation of code to the requested character information, controlling of the creating of the character information, and setting of the created character information to be accessible from each of the terminal equipments. Claim 3 merely further claims a distributing section to distribute the created character information.

Independent claim 5 is directed toward the character processing system, claiming the plurality of input terminals and each having a requesting section for the requesting of the character information for the character processing apparatus. Independent claim 5 similarly claims the allocating of code to the requested character information, a creating section to create the character information, and a notifying section notifying created character information to the input terminal equipments. Independent claim 5 further claims a notifying section notifying the input terminals the allocated code of the requested character information. The present application on page 21, lines 19-28, describes this operation. The different timing (dependent claims 6 and 7) of the notifying of the allocated code is also detailed in this portion of the application.

Similarly, independent claims 12 and 14 also set forth similar features including the different notifying of the terminal equipments of the allocated code (claim 12) and the created character information (claims 12 and 14).

Independent claims 16, 18, and 20 are merely medium claims similar to independent claims 10, 12, and 20, respectively.

Lastly, dependent claims 23-25 claim an environment setting, setting an external

character environment to be used in the input terminal equipments. This claimed feature is described on pages 23-25, with reference to FIGS. 15-17. On page 24, lines 23-30, the present application explains that the different environments can include different work projects or publications, e.g., identifiable differing fields, environments, or applications.

VI. GROUNDS OF REJECTION TO BE REVIEWED ON APPEAL (37 CFR § 41.37(c)(1)(vi))

Claims 1, 3, 5-7, 9-10, 12, 14, 16, 18, and 22-25 stand rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being obvious over Kobayashi et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,522,330, in view of Ooishi, U.S. Patent No. 5,802,538.

VII. ARGUMENT OF EACH GROUND OF REJECTION PRESENTED FOR REVIEW (37 CFR § 41.37(c)(1)(vii)))

(A) Independent claims 1, 10, and 16 and Dependent claim 3

The Advisory Action mailed February 8, 2005, sets forth that claim 1 stood rejected based on an obvious modification of Kobayashi et al., based on a disclosure of Ooishi.

In particular, the Advisory Action sets forth that Kobayashi et al. sets forth "a character processing apparatus which is connectable to a plurality of input terminal equipments and to a character information creating terminal equipment via a network," including the claimed receiving section (citing FIGS. 5, 10, 11, and 16; cols. 7 and 15-16), code allocating section (citing cols. 15-16); and control section (citing cols. 9-10).

Kobayashi et al. is directed toward reducing the number of required character codes resident in a client's computer memory and overcoming a problem related to fonts and different character variants of Chinese characters, e.g., fonts may only be available for some variants of a Chinese character. "Character groups are divided to groups comprising representative characters and variant font characters. When a variant font character (character code) with a font not stored in the apparatus is inputted, a representative character belonging to the same group is displayed in place of the variant font character on the screen." Kobayashi et al. in col. 2, lines 49-55. A group includes multiple characters having the same meaning and sound, with at least one character being a representative character of the group.

In particular, FIG. 5 of Kobayashi et al. illustrates a character processing apparatus connected to a network 501, including a character information table 504 and font storage area 506. The character information table 504 stores character codes for all character codes and font storage area 506 stores fonts corresponding to character codes for representative characters in each group among character groups. The character information table 504 may further include linking address information between character codes stored therein and in font storage area 506. See Kobayashi et al. in col. 7.

In Kobayashi et al., when an input character code is not stored in font storage area 506 a representative character from the same group can be accessed from character information table 504 and used instead. The storage address of the representative character in character information table 504 can thus be output. The corresponding character code of the representative character may also be output for replacement of the input character code. See

Kobayashi et al. in col. 8.

FIG. 10 of Kobayashi et al. illustrates another embodiment of Kobayashi et al., where a similar implementation is set forth over the network with a server 1001 and multiple clients 1003-1004. The server is further illustrated in FIG. 11, noting that the illustrated server is similar to the apparatus illustrated in FIG. 5, except that font storage area 1105 stores all fonts corresponding to representative characters and variant font characters.

Thus, Kobayashi et al. sets forth a system where all character codes (and variant character information) is either stored locally or at a server in a character information table. The clients further include a font storage area, which do not include all character fonts. The server's font storage area may include all character fonts for characters codes stored in the character information table or only some. When a client comes across a character code it does not have stored locally, or does not have a font for, the client requests the font from the server, or in the case where the font storage area of the server does not have the same, the representative character of the variant is output. Kobayashi et al. also includes outputting the character code of the representative character.

Again, the Examiner has indicated that Kobayashi et al. discloses all the claimed features, except for the claimed "setting section to set created character information with respect to the allocated code, so that the created character information is accessible from each of the input terminal equipments," for which the Office Action relies on Ooshi to disclose.

First, regarding the disclosure of Kobayashi et al., it is respectfully submitted that Kobayashi et al. fails to disclose or suggest all the claimed features proffered in the outstanding rejections.

Independent claim 1 sets forth:

> "[a] character processing apparatus which is connectable to a plurality of input terminal equipments and to a character information creating terminal equipment via a network, comprising:
> a receiving section to receive a request for character information which relates to an external character from an arbitrary one of the input terminal equipments;
> a code allocating section to allocate a code to the requested character information;
> a control section to control creation of character information, based on the requested character information, within the character information creating terminal equipment; and
> a setting section to set created character information with respect to the

allocated code, so that the created character information is accessible from each of the input terminal equipments."

Thus, the claimed character processing apparatus must be connectable between input terminal equipments and a character information creating terminal equipment via a network.

Kobayashi et al. discloses a network, and a type of character processing apparatus, but fails to disclose or suggest the claimed further connection of the same to a character information creating terminal equipment. All interactions within Kobayashi et al. only occur between the character processing apparatus and a single client, via a network. There is additional ability to be connected with a character information creating terminal equipment.

Further, Kobayahsi et al. does not allocate a code to any input requested character information. Rather, Kobayashi et al. either looks up the input code and outputs information for the same or outputs an address area of a representative character (and corresponding code) that can be used in place of the requested character. Thus, in Kobayahshi et al. there is never any allocating of a code to any input requested character information.

Similarly, Kobayashi et al. does not include a control section to control *creation* of character information, based on the requested character information, *within the character information creating terminal equipment*. In Kobayashi et al., there is no need for any character information creation, all character information is known within the character processing apparatus of Kobayashi et al., or at least a representative character of the same is known within the character processing apparatus of Kobayashi et al.

Further, if the Examiner is interpreting the obtaining of a representative character code as the claimed allocating of the code, then Kobayashi et al. cannot disclose the further claimed control section to control creation of character information, as no "creation" of character information would be necessary. Similarly, if the Examiner is interpreting the obtaining of the representative character code as the claimed creation of character information, then Kobayashi et al. cannot be interpreted as disclosing the claimed allocating of a code to the requested character information. Kobayashi et al. cannot be interpreted as disclosing both.

Again, it is noted that Kobayashi et al. merely sets forth a simple lookup operation, where a server can provide the correct character font for an input character code from the font library (storage area) or provide a representative character font if the character font is not available in the font library of the server.

There is no need or suggestion in Kobayashi et al. to further implement network connected "character information creating terminal equipment."

Regardless, it is further respectfully submitted that it would not have been obvious to modify Kobayashi et al. as proffered by the Examiner.

The Examiner proffers that it would have been obvious to modify Kobayashi et al. to make created character information accessible from each of the input terminals.

Again, independent claim 1 sets forth: "a setting section to set created character information with respect to the allocated code, so that the created character information is accessible from each of the input terminal equipments."

The Examiner has emphasized that the underlying teaching and implementation within Ooshi is not being relied upon, but rather Ooshi is only be used to disclose "distributing the character information over the network."

From this disclosure, the Examiner based the modification of Kobayashi et al. on the conclusion that "[s]uch modification would have required to serve for the very purpose of the character apparatus so that the setting section is intended to select a custom character under the set environment in a document processing system over a network." See Advisory Action, page 2, last sentence.

The Advisory Action further states that such a modification of Kobayashi et al. would have been obvious "to serve for the very purpose of distributing the character information over the network because such a construction would have provided a custom character (external character) environment creating means for creating a plurality of custom character environments for the respective custom character groups ... and distributing/creating the external character codes through the network."

Thus, the underlying motivation for the proffered combination is that the addition of distribution features from Ooshi would provide a distribution feature to Kobayashi et al. for distributing custom character environments through the network.

It is respectfully submitted that this motivation is improper.

There is no evidence in the record that there is any need or desire for Kobayashi et al. to be modified as proffered. Rather, the only evidence is the Examiner's notation that the addition of the same benefits would permit the modified Kobayashi et al. to include the benefits. This is not motivation. There must be objective evidence in the record that such benefits and/or features

would be needed or desired in Kobayashi et al. It is respectfully submitted that the proffered motivation is only a conclusory statement without foundation in the record.

In addition, such a modification would appear counter to the teaching of Kobayashi et al., which Kobayashi et al. is directed toward simplifying a centralized character information system.

In Kobayashi et al., only the server contains all the character information.

Further, in Kobayashi et al. there is no character information creation, and any corresponding character font information provided to a client to change the client's character code table or font character tables. It would not have been obvious to change Kobayashi et al. to now distribute additional codes to further burden the clients.

Lastly, the relied upon portions of Ooishi, in columns 9-10 and FIG. 17, merely describe the setting of a custom character environment. There would not appear to be any disclosure or suggestion of creating character information within the host computer 10 based on the requested character information from the target system 11, even if it is assumed, for arguments sake, that the host computer 10 of Ooishi functions both as the character processing apparatus and a character information creating terminal equipment. As illustrated in FIGS. 2-4, of Ooishi, for example, Ooishi merely sets the custom characters of the corresponding custom character environment necessary for generating the custom characters of the corresponding custom character group into the target system 11 from the host computer 10.

Further, in Ooishi, the set custom character environments are both **different** from the claimed character information and particularly **different** from the character codes and character information of Kobayashi et al. Thus, there would not appear to be any reason why one skilled in the art would equate a distribution operation for the character environments of Ooishi with the character codes and character information of Kobayahsi et al.

In addition, as noted above, there would not appear to be any reason one skilled in the art would look to the distributing operation for custom character environments in Ooishi, and derive a need, desire, or even a suggestion, for incorporating the same into Kobayashi et al.

The above arguments are equally applicable to claims 3, 10, and 16.

Therefore, for at least the above, it is respectfully submitted that Kobayashi et al. fails to disclose all the claimed features proffered in by the examiner. Further, it would not have been obvious to modify Kobayashi et al. as proffered, further noting that the proffered motivation fails to meet a prima facie obviousness case.

Withdrawal of these rejections are respectfully requested.

(B) Independent claims 5, 12, and 18 and Dependent claim 22

Regarding claims 5, 12, and 18, it is further respectfully submitted that the above arguments are equally applicable.

In addition, it is respectfully submitted that neither Kobayashi et al. nor Ooishi disclose or suggest the claimed first notifying section notifying the allocated code to the input terminal equipments or the claimed second notifying section notifying the created character information to the input terminal equipment so that the created character information is accessible from each of the input terminal equipments.

The Examiner has indicated that both first and second notifying sections are disclosed by Kobayashi et al. However, only one notifying section can reasonably be considered as being disclosed by Kobayashi et al., i.e., Kobayashi et al. only discloses forwarding character code information once.

Based on the Examiner's interpretation of Kobayashi et al., to read on the presently claimed invention, only the circumstances of no corresponding character font information being found in the server is arguably similar to the claimed invention. Only when there is no character font information in the font storage area is the representative character address obtained.

Thus, in embodiments of Kobayashi et al. where the character font information is not found in the font storage area, and a representative character must be used, there is only one communication with the client; the forwarding of the representative character information.

Further, as noted above, in Kobayashi et al. there is no allocating of a code to the requested character information, so there cannot be any notifying of the allocated code. Further, there is no creating of character information in Kobayashi et al., so there cannot be any notifying of the created character information. Lastly, based on the above, regardless of how Kobayashi et al. is interpreted, both the allocating of the code and creation of the character information cannot be covered by the singular operation of forwarding the representative character information to a client.

Therefore, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

(C) Independent claims 14 and 20

Regarding claims 14 and 20, it is further respectfully submitted that the above arguments are equally applicable, noting that claims 14 and 20 do not require the claimed notification of the

allocated code set forth in claims 5, 12, and 18.

(D) Dependent claim 6

Claim 6 sets forth that the first notifying section notifies the code to the input terminal equipments when the code is allocated by said allocating section, noting that claim 7 sets forth that the first notifying section notifies the code to the input terminal equipments after said creating section creates the created character information.

The Examiner has indicated that Kobayashi et al. discloses both these features, but Kobayashi et al. would not appear to disclose either, and obviously cannot disclose both. The Examiner merely indicates that cols. 15 and 16 of Kobayashi et al. disclose these features, but review of the Kobayashi et al. would not appear to support the same.

Kobayashi et al. cannot disclose or suggest notifying the allocated code to the input terminal equipments, as it would make the remaining portions of the claimed invention unnecessary, i.e., if the representative character information is forwarded to the client then there is no need to create any character information.

Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that Kobayashi et al. does not disclose this feature.

(E) Dependent claim 7

Similar to above, it is respectfully submitted that Kobayashi et al. does not disclose or suggest the claimed first notifying section notifying the code to the input terminal equipments after said creating section creates the created character information, as again, it would make the claimed creating of the character information unnecessary, i.e., if the allocated code corresponds to the representative character information then there is no need for the creation of the character information.

Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that Kobayashi et al. does not disclose this feature.

(F) Dependent claim 9

Claim 9 further sets forth that the second notifying section notifies the code to the input terminal equipments. The Examiner again relies upon cols. 15 and 16 of Kobayashi et al.

However, in addition to the above, there is no need to notify the clients twice in Kobayashi et al.

(G) Dependent claims 23-25

It is respectfully submitted that these rejections are improper. The rejections identify the additional feature, but do not identify how or if Kobayashi et al. discloses the same.

Neither Kobayashi et al. nor Ooshi disclose or suggest the claimed external character environment used in the input terminal equipments. Withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

VIII. CONCLUSION

In view of the above, withdrawal of the outstanding rejections is respectfully requested. It is respectfully submitted that the pending claims are patentably distinguishable over the cited prior art.

Respectfully submitted,

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CLAIMS APPENDIX (37 CFR § 41.37(c)(1)(viii))

1. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A character processing apparatus which is connectable to a plurality of input terminal equipments and to a character information creating terminal equipment via a network, comprising:

a receiving section to receive a request for character information which relates to an external character from an arbitrary one of the input terminal equipments;

a code allocating section to allocate a code to the requested character information;

a control section to control creation of character information, based on the requested character information, within the character information creating terminal equipment; and

a setting section to set created character information with respect to the allocated code, so that the created character information is accessible from each of the input terminal equipments.

2. (CANCELED)

3. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The character processing apparatus as claimed in claim 1, further comprising:

a distributing section distributing the created character information to the input terminal equipments.

4. (CANCELED)

5. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A character processing system, comprising:

a plurality of input terminal equipments; and

a character processing apparatus coupled to the input terminal equipments via a network,

each of said input terminal equipments comprising a requesting section requesting character information, which relates to an external character, with respect to the character processing apparatus,

with said character processing apparatus comprising:

an allocating section allocating a code to the character information requested by the requesting section;

a first notifying section notifying the code to the input terminal equipments;

a creating section creating character information based on the requested character information; and

a second notifying section notifying the created character information to the input terminal equipments, so that the created character information is accessible from each of the input terminal equipments.

6. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The character processing system as claimed in claim 5, wherein said first notifying section notifies the code to the input terminal equipments when the code is allocated by said allocating section.

7. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The character processing system as claimed in claim 5, wherein said first notifying section notifies the code to the input terminal equipments after said creating section creates the created character information.

8. (CANCELED)

9. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The character processing system as claimed in claim 5, wherein said second notifying section also notifies the code to the input terminal equipments.

10. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A character processing method adapted to a character processing system which includes a plurality of input terminal equipments, a character processing apparatus, and a character information creating terminal equipment, which are coupled via a network, comprising:

receiving by the character processing apparatus, a request for character information which relates to an external character, from an arbitrary one of the input terminal equipments;

allocating a code to the requested character information by the character processing apparatus;

controlling, by the character processing apparatus, creation of character information, based on the character information, in the creating terminal equipment; and

setting created character information with respect to the allocated code by the character processing apparatus, so that the created character information is accessible from each of the input terminal equipments.

11. (CANCELED)

12. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A character processing method adapted to a character processing system which includes a plurality of input terminal equipments, a character processing apparatus, and a character information creating terminal equipment, which are coupled via a network, comprising:

requesting character information which relates to an external character from an arbitrary one of the input terminal equipments with respect to the character processing apparatus;

allocating a code to the requested character information by the character processing apparatus;

notifying the code to the input terminal equipments by the character processing apparatus;

creating character information, based on the requested character information, by the character information creating terminal equipment; and

notifying the created character information to the arbitrary input terminal equipment by the character processing apparatus, so that the created character information is accessible from each of the input terminal equipments.

13. (CANCELED)

14. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A character processing method adapted to a character processing system which includes a plurality of input terminal equipments, a character processing apparatus, and a character information creating terminal equipment, which are coupled via a network, comprising:

requesting character information which relates to an external character from an arbitrary one of the input terminal equipments with respect to a character processing apparatus;

allocating a code to the requested character information by the character processing apparatus;

creating character information, based on the requested character information, by the character information creating terminal equipment; and

notifying the created character information to the arbitrary input terminal equipment by

the character processing apparatus, so that the created character information is accessible from each of the input terminal equipments.

15. (CANCELED)

16. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A computer-readable storage medium which stores a program for causing a computer, forming a character processing apparatus which is coupled to a plurality of input terminal equipments and a character information creating terminal equipment via a network, to carry out a plurality steps, comprising:

receiving a request for character information which relates to an external character from an arbitrary one of the input terminal equipments;

allocating a code to the requested character information;

controlling creation of character information, based on the requested character information, in the character information creating terminal equipment; and

setting created character information with respect to the allocated code, so that the created character information is accessible from each of the input terminal equipments.

17. (CANCELED)

18. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A computer-readable storage medium which stores a program for causing a computer, forming a character processing apparatus which is coupled to a plurality of input terminal equipments via a network, to carry out a plurality of operations, comprising:

receiving character information which relates to an external character and is requested from an arbitrary one of the input terminal equipments;

allocating a code to the requested character information;

notifying the code to the input terminal equipments;

creating character information based on the requested character information; and

notifying the created character information to the arbitrary input terminal equipment, so that the created character information is accessible from each of the input terminal equipments.

19. (CANCELED)

20. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A computer-readable storage medium which stores a program for causing a computer, forming a character processing apparatus which is coupled to a plurality of input terminal equipments via a network, to carry out a plurality of steps, comprising:

receiving character information which relates to an external character from an arbitrary one of the input terminal equipments;

allocating a code to the received character information;

creating character information based on the received character information; and

notifying the created character information to the input terminal equipments.

21. (CANCELED)

22. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The character processing system as claimed in claim 5, wherein the character processing apparatus includes a character information creating terminal equipment including said creating section.

23. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The character processing apparatus as claimed in

claim 1, further comprising:

an environment setting section setting an external character environment to be used in the input terminal equipments.

24. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The character processing system as claimed in claim 5, wherein said character processing apparatus further comprises:

an environment setting section setting an external character environment to be used in the input terminal equipments.

25. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The character processing method as claimed in claim 10, further comprising:

setting by the character processing apparatus an external character environment to be used in the input terminal equipments.

EVIDENCE APPENDIX (37 CFR § 41.37(c)(2))

None. No additional evidence is being submitted.

RELATED PROCEEDINGS APPENDIX (37 CFR § 41.37(c)(2))

None. No decisions have been rendered by a court of the Board or in any related proceedings.